TENNESSEE REGULATORY AUTHORITY

Melvin Malone, Chairman Lynn Greer, Director Sara Kyle, Director



460 James Robertson Parkway Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0505

August 6, 1999

Ms. Ann Boggs Assistant Director - Rates Piedmont Natural Gas Company P.O. Box 33068 Charlotte, North Carolina 28233

Re: Nashville Gas Company ACA Filing – Docket No. 99-00076

Dear Ann:

The six month deadline for the completion and approval of the Staff's audit of Nashville Gas Company's ACA filing is September 2, 1999. Current procedures at the TRA require that the audit report be placed on the conference agenda for the Directors' approval prior to the deadline. That effectively moves the completion date to August 13 in order for the docket to be placed on the August 24 agenda. As we discussed in our telephone conversation today, the Staff will not be able to complete its analysis of the Company's filing by this date. The delay is due to the reduction in Staff that has taken place this summer.

The PGA rule provides for an extension of the 180-day notification by mutual consent of both the Company and the TRA Staff. It is my understanding from talking with you that Piedmont does not have a problem with an extension of the 180 days. If this is not correct, please notify me immediately.

I expect that the Staff will complete the remainder of the audit within an additional eight weeks. Therefore, we are requesting an extension to October 29, 1999. We will make every effort to complete the audit well before this date. If you have any additional questions regarding this request, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Pat Murphy

Senior Financial Analyst Energy and Water Division

cc: David Waddell